

In This Issue

Canadian scholar visited the CUT Research and Development Unit
HESA Conference informs Research and Innovation Agenda
Seminar highlighted Regional Innovation

Canadian scholar visited the CUT Research and Development Unit

Prof. Susan Tilley, Professor in Undergraduate and Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Education at Brock University, Canada, visited the university during March 2014. During her visit she had meetings with the Research Forum. At this forum she discussed a protocol for research ethics and integrity. A number of important pointers for a research and integrity protocol were highlighted such as the intention of the research, possible benefits and challenges, impact on the research and the public community and the perception that once a proposal is approved, no further ethical engagement is necessary. An important drive for ethical review is not to shape the research but to direct the research to be reflective of ethical values.

Prof. Tilley also presented a public lecture to staff and students on respectful research. She highlighted two perspectives that are often omitted in the discussion in research ethics. These perspectives are researcher identity and critical reflexivity. She also discussed the role of situational knowledge, power and cultural background in an ethical debate. From the presentation it was clear that roles and responsibilities should also be cleared in the research process. An ethical review is not without its benefits. Apart from the educational value it also provides protection. People are becoming more sensitive towards confidentiality, vulnerability, risk, harm and ownership of different parts of the research process. The question on who should be authors of a paper was also entertained.
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Prof Susan Tilley - Professor in Undergraduate and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Education, Brock University, Canada.



Prof Laetus Lategan - Dean: Research and Innovation, CUT, addressing the audience

The oversight process is not without its challenges. Typical challenges will be the instrumentalism of the review process, exaggeration of risk, harm and vulnerability. These challenges call for a strong review committee and proper guidelines to direct the review.

During the lecture and meetings everyone was in agreement that a broader research ethics discussion is warranted to guide the research community on what the pointers for responsible and respectful research are. Some pointers are maximum reciprocity, understanding the implications of our identities as researchers and positioning, continuous engagement in critical reflexivity, our position in power relationships, how researchers see themselves, connected across similarities and recognizing differences, how is a researcher connected to other people, engagement with critical research praxis, contextual and cultural knowledge (how much time we spend learning).

The URIC will now take this initiative forward to formulate a research and integrity protocol for the university.

Compiled by Prof LOK Lategan



Dr Ntsoaki Malebo - Researcher: Life Sciences, Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences

CUT Researcher receives Prestigious NRF Research Career Advancement Fellowship

During 2013, a number of Post Doctoral Fellows from all South African Higher Education institutions, applied for the NRF Research Career Advancement

Fellowship programme. Only a few candidates were selected for this programme and Dr Ntsoaki Malebo was one of those candidates. According to the NRF, the Research Career Advancement Fellowships are aimed at providing support for the training of individuals for research leadership in all areas of Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematical Sciences (STEM) at public Universities.

Dr Malebo is not new to the NRF and has held many NRF awards which aided her through her research career. She is a prime example for aspiring young researchers and shows that through dedication, perseverance and commitment, acquiring external funding for research is possible.

Compiled by Zenobia Louw

2014 Manual for Research and Development Support

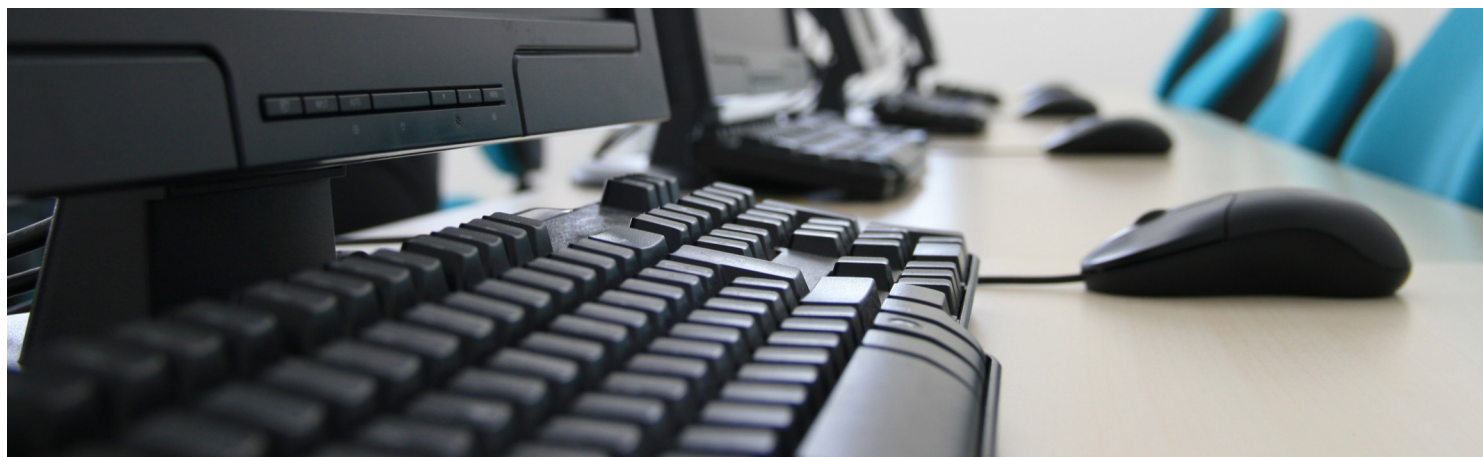
The research process is one of interaction and support. No student can be successful without the support of a supervisor and the administrative assistance of the university. It is important that postgraduate students are well acquainted with the processes and procedures of the university.

The Research and Development Unit avails the *2014 Manual for Research and Development Support* on CD as well as in a PDF-format to download from the CUT website. The purpose of this manual is to assist and guide researchers and postgraduate students by means of good practices associated with the research process at the CUT. This manual should provide support to researchers and postgraduate students in doing their research.

This manual does not pretend to know all the answers, but attempts rather to direct researchers to where the supportive material can be found, and to show them how this material can assist them to accomplish their research.

The manual on CD is accompanied by a colourful brochure depicting the most important 2014-information, including: 10 integrated R&D programmes, Faculty Research Managers, our own publication outlet- the *Interim*, available support from Faculty Librarians, dates for R&D 2014-seminars, important regulatory documents to consult, steps and stages in the postgraduate experience, and research clusters & programmes.

The Graduate School provide collective support to supervisors and postgraduate students to grow their research capacities in providing access to best practice resources in support of research. *Continue...*

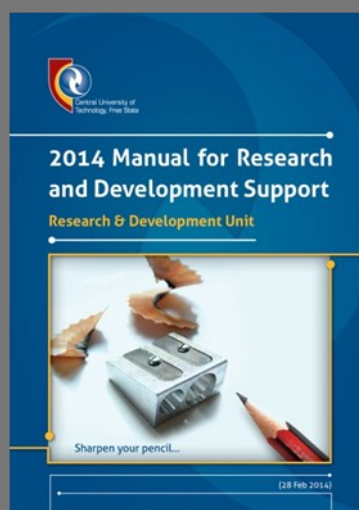


Books and Journals published by R&D in support of research

The following books and journals are available at:

CUT Library and Information Services (Bloemfontein and Welkom Campuses); or
Visit our website to browse for more information and purchase the E-book.

<http://www.cut.ac.za/graduate-school/>



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

26 April 2014

Theme: Movies – a global passion

A great opportunity to generate public and media interest on issues relating to intellectual property (IP).

Established by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in 2000 to "raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks and designs impact on daily life" and "to celebrate creativity, and the contribution made by creators and innovators to the development of societies across the globe".

April 26 – World IP Day is celebrated on the day on which the WIPO Convention came into force in 1970.

Individual offices are welcome to decide on how best to use the event in order to make a splash, and to meet public awareness-raising goals.

Locally, Present, Utilise and Commercialise www.nipmo.org.za



World Intellectual Property Day

World IP day will be celebrated on Saturday, 26 April 2014. The aim of this day is to raise awareness on the value and meaning of Intellectual property (IP).

IP refers to creations that sprout from the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols; names and images used in commerce.

This year, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) looks behind the scenes to find out how IP rights shape the filmmaker's journey from script to screen. The theme for World IP day this year is: Movies — a Global Passion. The aim is to look at how film producers attract investors, how screenwriters and actors earn a living, and how innovation is pushing the frontiers of creativity in the industry.

CUT will keep on raising awareness among staff and students about IP.

Compiled by Zenobia Louw

CUT Institutional Repository during the Launch of the Library Week

On 17 March 2013 the Library and Information Services unveiled the CUT Institutional Repository during the Launch of the Library Week.

An Institutional Repository is "... an online archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution." Foremost it includes dissertations, journal articles, conference papers and chapters of books. Institutional Repositories are now frequently placed in academic institutions of learning worldwide. The main functions of an IR is to capture, preserve and provide access to scholarly works of an institution. IRs are part of the "Open Access Movement" that seeks to promote free access to scholarly works. Distribution of low-cost technology internationally has helped to advance open access to scholarly 'publications.'

They are a variety of benefits to be delivered from an IR. Among them are the following:

- preservation of the intellectual output of an institution
- promotion of online access to scholarship
- enhancing/showcasing the profile, integrity and public value of an institution
- reducing the monopoly of commercial publications to access scholarly works
- bringing economic relief to institutions and individuals who otherwise have to rely on subscription/purchasing to access intellectual outputs
- improving the impact factor (citations) of academic works
- Potential to promote networking and collaboration among academics from different institutions

The library has been working on the project to set up an IR for a while. Thus far a server has been secured, necessary programme (DSpace) installed, and the uploading of data has commenced.

Currently the CUT IR is at an embryonic stage. Only a limited number of digitally born CUT dissertations, dating

back to 2005, have been uploaded. In due course all digital dissertations deposited to the library will be located on the CUT IR. Thereafter the library will target articles that have been published in CUT journals. Subsequently the library will begin soliciting for inputs from CUT faculties and embark on exploring other avenues on an on-going basis. It is not going to be easy to build a 'comprehensive' CUT IR. In many cases there will be copyright restrictions to overcome. However, effort will be made to secure authorisation from copyright holders to ensure that a successful bid to build an 'all-inclusive' CUT IR is attained

In this vein we are calling on all academic staff to freely and willingly contribute scholarly works to the library including conference/seminar papers and related documents to assist the library to arrive at a CUT IR that we can all be proud of and will truly be a 'CUT above the rest.' It is in the best interest of CUT authors, researchers and academics to have their works featuring on the IR. Research done elsewhere has shown that scholarly works appearing on IRs reach far wider audiences, have more impact and attract more recognition and citations than those confined to commercially published monographs or subscription based journals.

Call by the South African Regional Universities Association (SARUA)

Proposal Writing for Research Projects - Practical-oriented training for New Researchers

The Seminar dates:

Seminar 1: June 2nd-6th 2014, *University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa* Intermediate E-Learning Section: June-August (3 months)

Seminar 2: November 17th-21st 2014, *University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa*

The course is open up to 30 participants in total.

Closing date: 23 April 2014, 11:00pm.

Contact: <http://proposalwriting.globalsouth.uni-koeln.de/>

Seminar highlights regional innovation

On 19 March 2014 the Regional and Innovation Forum acted as host to a one day seminar on regional innovation. The basis of the seminar was progress with recommendations in the OECD report. This report, Higher Education in Regional and City Development: The Free State, South Africa, published in the OECD's series on Higher Education in Regional and City Development, makes important recommendations on the development of regional innovation. During the seminar Ms Jana Pukka from Innovation Engaged and lead author of the report, outlined the importance of a supportive technology transfer model. This model can lead to sustainable developments, employability and improvement of living conditions. She also pointed out the central role of smart-specialization to secure a competitive edge. The stimulation of innovation cannot be removed from adult and youth skills development.

During the workshop the focus was also on a DST-funded project on Science and Innovation Park development. Mr Gerhard Verhoef, project coordinator, presented the concept of a Futuma Village. This presentation was complimented by a presentation by Johan Strauss on DST's promotion on regional innovation.

Regional innovation was also put in the context of the National Development Plan. Prof. Basie Wessels highlighted how innovation can support this plan.

Many more presentations and contributions lead to a stimulating discussion from which the following five pointers can be taken away:

1. Staff and students should have an entrepreneurial mind. This should lead to changed behavior. At the same time universities' have to consider whether the learning programmes they offer and how they teach are still appropriate for the knowledge economy.
2. Researchers have to consider what they are reaching, if their research programmes are aligned with a demand-driven society and economy. The observation suggests that research programmes may not be focused enough; their impact is too limited and there is not enough application to real world problems.
3. The pendulum shifted from lifelong learning to lifelong employability. The next shift should be from lifelong employability to sustained job creation.
4. Part of the research and innovation value chain should be enterprise development, entrepreneurial skills and SMME creation.
5. Engagement, as third mission statement of a university, should inform the learning, teaching, research and innovation programmes. There is no point if the

curriculum (in the broadest sense of the word) is not influenced by entrepreneurial and innovation activities.

6. Commitment to entrepreneurship and innovation also call on changed behavior.

Compiled by Laetus OK Lategan

Biomedical M.Tech student to attend conference in Phuket

Ms Ketlareng Liza Polori, a final year M.Tech student in Biomedical Technology at the Department of Health Science will be presenting a poster at the 5 international conference on Natural Products for Health and Beauty (NATPRO 5). The conference will be held in Phuket, Thailand from 6th -8th May 2014. She is the only candidate in the Free State to present at this conference. Her project title is: Medicinal Properties of *Ipomoea oblongata* (Ex. Choisy. Mey), Phytomedicine under the supervision of Prof. Sam Mashele and Dr Idah Manduna. This medicinal plant was collected from Thaba-Nchu, which was done in collaboration with Kopanang Dingaka Association in Serwalo Free State. *Ipomoea oblongata* was tested for anticancer, antidiabetic activities and phytochemical constituents. The results showed low hazard for human consumption, good antioxidants and antidiabetic properties. Using her own initiative, she managed to obtain external funding for this conference.



Compiled by Ketlareng Polori



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Newsletter

Upcoming Events

April:
26 World IP Day

May:
16 Research Ethics and Integrity
Workshop (visit: <http://www.cut.ac.za/research-development-workshop/> to RSVP for this event)

Word from the Dean

A number of exciting research and innovation projects are reported in this edition of the newsletter. These projects inform as to the challenges for the research and innovation project as well as the expectations that research and innovation results can improve our world. In the months to come the research community will continue engaging on these projects. One important discussion will be on research ethics and integrity. It is evident that any research community should become more sensitive for the ethical and integrity challenges of a research project. From the discussions we recently had on this matter it is evident that each researcher should be respectful to other people and the environment when the research project is exercised. At the same time should all researchers be responsible in doing research.

This responsibility is to ensure the integrity of the research project and that researchers indeed create new knowledge and provide new insights into the solving of problems. Equally important is to provide new solutions to society through social and technological innovations. Innovations are not only closely linked with an entrepreneurial spirit but there is fast evidence that innovations impact positively on socio-economic development.

Our research community is invited to participate in these discussions and activities.

Laetus OK Lategan